#### Representative Hans Dunshee

#### Funding in the budget to protect our state's safety and beauty

Climate change	\$1.86 million
Evergreen Cities	\$326,000
<b>Local Farms and Healthy Kids.</b>	\$1.39 million
Prohibiting Toxic Toys	\$444,000
Preventing Oil Spills	\$3.65 Million

#### **Construction jobs**

#### **The Public Works Trust Fund**

This year 52 projects were passed that will leverage \$546.3 million in investments from local governments, authorized by the Public Works Board.

This year's project list will create \$1.9 billion in state economic activity by putting folks in hard hats to work building bridges, roads, water lines and recycling facilities around the state. (HB 2437)

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# 2008 Session Report

# Representative Hans Dunshee P.O. Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

Save the Date Town Hall Meeting

Lake Stevens Scho Admin. Bldg. 12309 22nd St. NE Snohomish – 1

Mill Creek – 3 Mill Creek City , 15720 Main Str Representative Hans Dunshee

## 2008 Session Report

Dear neighbors,

Thank you to everyone who called my office, e-mailed or wrote a letter. Your opinions matter to me.

This newsletter is a chance for me to keep you informed about issues important to our families and neighborhoods here in the 44th District.

**A balanced budget** – The House and Senate passed a balanced budget and finished work on time. The budget continues making historic investments in our schools and universities while putting \$850 million in the bank for a rainy day.

**Better public schools** – I'm a strong believer in public schools. I'm proud we put money in the budget for better Head Start, more all-day kindergarten and stronger math and science teaching.

**Boosting our state's brainpower** — Our local businesses depend upon highly educated and creative workers. To keep our economy strong, we're investing in our colleges and universities, with more apprenticeships and protecting funding in the 2007-09 budget for an extra 10,000 students at our colleges and universities. I also fought to keep the idea of UW-Everett alive, and there's funding in the budget to do that.

**Protecting our future** – I believe it's our duty to leave our children and grandchildren an earth worth inheriting. I also believe we can create jobs by leading the way on green technology and green jobs. The governor signed my bill on climate change that will create 25,000 green jobs and reduce pollution in our state. We also passed bills to plant more trees and prevent the toys our children play with from being full of poisons like lead.

This newsletter isn't big enough to tell you about every issue, just the highlights. If you have a question about a specific bill or issue, please send me an e-mail or call the Hotline.

You can also reach me at my district office in Everett (see below) and I hope to see you at the town hall meetings I'm hosting on May 10th.

Thanks you for taking the time to read this newsletter, and thank you for the opportunity



to serve as your representative. It's an honor and a privilege, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Representative Hans Dunshee

360-786-7804 dunshee.hans@leg.wa.gov www.leg.wa.gov/house/dunshee/

#### ► Keeping in touch

**District office** 2812 Lombard Suite 303 Everett, WA 98201

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Hearing impaired: 800-635-9993

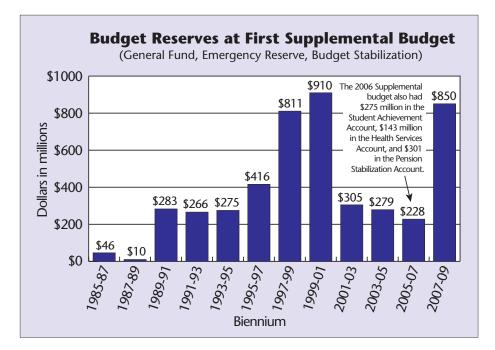
#### Representative Hans Dunshee

#### **Budget reserves**

The state's budget is just like your family's budget. You have to make tough choices, you can't spend more than you take in and it's smart to save part of your paycheck for a rainy day.

As vice chair of Appropriations, it's been my job to help balance our state's budget. It's not easy. All 147 lawmakers have ideas they want funded in the budget to improve our schools, fix health care or create jobs. You can't pay for them all.

We scrubbed the budget to find savings and still keep up with our state's growing population by investing in better schools and universities, better health care and a cleaner environment.



#### **Public schools**

Our kids need a great education, not only so they can get good jobs, but to be good citizens and parents.

The budget we passed will improve public schools in every corner of the state. Here are some of the highlights:

- landmark new funding for school librarians, since reading is fundamental to learning (\$4 million)
- all-day kindergarten at more schools
- fairer pay for teachers, keeping the promise voters made by passing I-732 (\$17.7 million)
- better career and technical education (\$2.75 million)
- Washington Head Start, which sets the path toward one, integrated Washington Head Start program by the year 2010 by combining it with the highly successful federal Head Start program (House Bill 3168).

#### **Colleges and universities**

This budget protects the investment we made last year to add space for 10,000 more students at our colleges and universities.

UW-Everett — I pushed hard to bring a UW campus to Snohomish County, and there is funding in the state budget to keep this idea alive.

It's important because Snohomish is the biggest county in the state that doesn't have a four-year university. That hurts our local high school students who want to earn a college degree, it hurts our local businesses who need highly skilled workers and it hurts working moms and dads who want to go back to school but can't spare the time to drive to UW or Western.

I'll keep fighting for this idea, because it's important for our students and our local economy.



**Aerospace apprenticeships** – \$3 million in new funding for apprenticeships in the aerospace field.

**Community college faculty** – Part-time instructors make a pittance, even if they teach a full-time load split between two community colleges. This budget puts \$500,000 toward converting instructors from part-time status to full-time.

### **Creating a sustainable economy**Climate change



The global market for green technology is growing every day. This new law (House Bill 2815) is about getting in early and fostering innovation so the Microsofts and Boeings of tomorrow can get started not in Texas or Tokyo, but in garages here in Everett or Seattle or Spokane.

Before you tackle a problem, you have to know how big it is. This bill measures greenhouse gases in our state, so we know where the problems are and how to solve

them. The bill also aims to create 25,000 green-collar jobs by 2020.

Under this law, we will identify industry and worker needs in the new green economy, and create jobs by addressing the recruitment, education and training needs of green technology companies. Our state is already a global player in biodiesel and solar panels.



#### 2008 Session Report



This is the third landmark environmental bill that I've had the pleasure of writing and getting onto the governor's desk. We started with the nation's first green building law in 2005, then Energy Freedom in 2006 and this year, the climate change bill, which Governor Christine Gregoire is signing here. I enjoyed working with the governor on this issue; she made this bill one of her requested pieces of legislation.

#### **Local Farms, Healthy Kids**

This bill puts fresh fruits and vegetables – from local farms – into our local schools, giving our kids better nutrition and our local farms a boost.

Democrats worked together with Republicans on this law,



which will also send our kids on field trips to visit local farms so they understand where food comes from and why it's important to eat fresh food instead of junk food.

This is important not just for our kids' health, since we have an obesity epidemic, but for their performance in school. Students do better in class when they're eating right. (Senate Bill 6483)

#### **Prohibiting toxic toys**

You've seen the TV and newspaper stories about toxic toys, mostly from Chinese factories. There's no reason the toys you buy should contain poisonous amounts of lead or any other toxin.

Because the federal government hasn't taken action, we passed the Children's Safe Products Act, the nation's first state law to limit three of the worst offenders — lead, cadmium and phthalates — in toys and other children's products sold in Washington. (House Bill 2647)



